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ELECTION

OF

GOVERNOR,

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

AND

ATTORNEY GENERAL,

OF THE STATE OF VIRGINIA,

ON THURSDAY, THE 28TH DAY OF MAY, 1863.

STATE TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR,

GEORGE WYTHE MUNFORD,

OF THE CITY OF RICHMOND.

FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR,

SAMUEL PRICE,

OF GREENBRIER.

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL,

JOHN RANDOLPH TUCKER,

OF FREDERICK.

RICHMOND, Feb. 28th, 1863.

COL. GEORGE WYTHE MUNFORD,

Dear Sir :—The day rapidly approaches when the people of Virginia will be called on to select a successor to the Chief Executive office of this Commonwealth. The times demand a Governor of no ordinary qualifications. We are engaged in a war of independence which may be prolonged for years. The part which Virginia has taken in that war has been worthy of her greatness and her patriotism in the past, and the duties she must yet perform will call for all the energy that her brave sons can put forth. At so troublous an epoch in our history, the man who should uphold the sovereignty and protect the interests of the State should possess a deep and abiding affection for Virginia, an inflexible resolution never to see her integrity impaired, a thorough acquaintance with her resources and the genius and temper of her people, a large knowledge of the science, and a ready familiarity with the practical details of government, and a character above reproach. Believing that you combine these qualities in an eminent degree, and recognizing the invaluable and distinguished services you have rendered the State in many posts of usefulness through a long series of years, we ask authority to place your name before the people of Virginia for their suffrages as the next Governor of the State. These are no days for party nominations or party conventions, and we flatter ourselves with the hope that your name brought forward in this way will secure the vote of a decisive majority of your fellow-citizens.

With great respect,

Your friends and obedient servants,

Wm. F. Ritchie,
Thos. B. Bigger,
Horace L. Kent,
J. Davenport, Jr.,
C. W. Purcell,
Thos. D. Quarles,
Wm. C. Allen,
J. B. Stegall,
J. C. Rutherford,
Wm. W. Dunnavant,
R. S. Redford,
A. M. Bailey,
Wm. Y. Sheppard,
J. W. Randolph,
Alex. H. Rutherford,
Walter D. Blair,
A. Bargamin, Jr.,
W. Goddin,
Chas. A. Rose,
J. B. Macmurdo,
Mann S. Valentine,

E. H. Gill,
A. Morris,
Jas. H. Gardner,
J. Pitfield George,
Charles S. Mills,
E. L. Chinn,
A. J. Bowers,
Asa Snyder,
H. Boshier Tompkins,
Wm. Rutherford,
C. K. Chapin,
Charles B. Habliston,
Wm. Breeden,
R. M. Nimmo,
Andrew Pizzini,
Geo. H. Tompkins,
Jno. Jones,
S. P. Mitchell,
F. H. Habliston,
Geo. W. Jones,
Wm. Beers,

A. Pleasants,
J. B. Danforth,
John J. Fry,
L. W. Glazebrook,
John Rutherford,
J. B. Watkins,
W. L. Cowardin,
Ro. L. Lancaster,

H. P. Edmond,
P. T. Sutton,
John W. Ferguson,
Wm. F. Watson,
E. G. Eggeling,
A. Antoni,
V. A. Favier,
C. D. Yale.

Tr. R.

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RICHMOND, March 2d, 1863.

To Messrs WM. F. RITCHIE, THOMAS B. BIGGER, HORACE L. KENT,
and others:

Gentlemen—Your flattering invitation to permit my name to be used as a candidate for the office of Governor, has been received.—Similar requests have been presented to me by friends in different portions of the State. I yield, therefore, to your wishes, without undue affectation of modesty, or vain professions of ability, experience or zeal.

You are pleased to allude to the various positions I have occupied in the State. If I have succeeded in deserving the commendation you bestow for the discharge of my duties heretofore, it is the best pledge I can give of the course I shall pursue hereafter.

It is proper that you should be in possession of some of my views upon public affairs. I give them concisely:

Proud of Virginia's ancient renown, zealous that her present should equal her former fame, recognizing but one Virginia, and that containing all her people and her whole territory, I give my heart and mind to maintain and perpetuate her integrity unimpaired.

I am a strict constructionist, with the Constitution as my compass and chart; believing it to be the duty of the Executive faithfully to execute, not to make, laws, not to usurp the prerogative of the Legislature, nor to interfere with the just action of the Judiciary.

I am an advocate of State rights; opposed to consolidation of powers in the federative system. I would, if I could, restrain the Confederate Government within its appropriate functions. It has enough to do to secure our independence without violating personal rights. It has enough to do to attend to its external relations; to smooth the way for intercourse with foreign nations; to care for and provide adequate supplies for our patriotic and glorious armies. It has enough to do to provide an adequate revenue, and to curtail its redundant currency, leaving the States to attend to their internal affairs, ample for their noblest exertions; leaving individuals free to regulate their own pursuits, unstimulated by governmental aids, unseduced by governmental bribes, unawed by the exercise of unwarrantable power.

I will give to the President a zealous co-operation, confiding in his talents, fidelity, patriotism, firmness, and christianity.

To the United States Government as administered, and to its Con-

stitution as construed, I am utterly and irreconcilably hostile. I would scatter every material for reconstruction of the old Union to the winds. The blood of tens of thousands of the brightest and best of Southern sons cries aloud against a re-union. The two systems, in my opinion, have different attractions and mutual repulsions. They must in future revolve in different spheres.

"Blessed are the Peacemakers," but peace must be based upon the recognition of our separate national independence, and upon the restoration of the entire territory of every State in the Confederacy.

With these principles briefly stated, if I can obtain the vote and confidence of the State I shall be grateful. If not, I shall bow with composure to the majesty of the people.

Very respectfully,

GEORGE W. MUNFORD.

From the Richmond Whig.

Col. George Wythe Munford is here presented as a candidate for the office of Governor. At a time when Virginia needs the best talents and the experience, skill and counsel of her truest and most devoted sons, such a nomination, it is hoped, will be generally acceptable.

His claims for promotion are the best foundation for the State's claim to his services. He has been intimately connected with the public affairs of Virginia for nearly forty years. He has, at his fingers' ends, the rolls of her legislation; he has been the keeper of the journal of the reforms of her organic law; he has, as commissioner of the Sinking Fund, been officially obliged to scan her fisc with the accuracy of a calculator and a critic; he has practiced her whole system of militia organization; he has had to state the accounts and pay-rolls of her claims and pensions, and the catalogue of her library, and to conduct her international exchanges; he has had to supervise the audits and settlements of her literary and monument funds; he has lately revised all her statutes; and he has been her Secretary of State, intimately counselling her Executive administration, for a long series of years. In offices with very moderate if not inadequate pay, he has waited assiduously, and often extra-officially on her people; he is universally known and greatly approved in all the places he has filled and yet fills; he is thoroughly acquainted with the capabilities of the Commonwealth, and with the genius and wishes and instincts, and even prejudices of her people; and he is *intus et in cute*, a Virginian, beloved of Virginians, imbued with their genius, their wishes, their instincts, their prejudices, their pride, their passions, their grace and their glory! He is unambitious, except to serve and be useful, and has served and been useful a long time in subordinate places. He is now in the full maturity of his talents. Though time has silvered his head, his energies are yet vigorous as ever, and now, as they have been for many years, are incessantly exerted to do his part well, in the brightest of

sunny days as in the night and gloom of the storm which palsies some and appalls almost all. He is an old public servant, too, of moderate means, and a favorite of heaven, in having a large and most interesting family; but, ah! he has them not all! God gave him, and this unrighteous war has taken from him one of his brightest jewels—that noble boy, who fell gallantly fighting at Malvern Hill.

Colonel Munford is a gentleman, in the true sense—urbane, even-tempered, calm, patient, honest, just, firm, manly and liberal. He is a scholar of classical education, and amidst all his practical life has cultivated, not unsuccessfully, the field of polite literature. He is an alumnus of the venerable college of William and Mary, with her degree of Bachelor of Law.

At the beginning of the session of the General Assembly in 1825, he was elected clerk of the House of Delegates—to which office he was re-elected at each succeeding session for twenty-seven years, by unanimous votes. And in December 1852, he was elected by the General Assembly, Secretary of the Commonwealth. On the last day of his service as clerk, the House of Delegates unanimously adopted a resolution, tendering to him their thanks for the prompt, able and impartial manner in which, for twenty-seven years, he had discharged the important and responsible duties of that office.

During this time, too, he was not neglectful of other duties. In 1829, he was elected Captain of the Richmond Light Infantry Blues—the oldest volunteer company in the State—baptised by the blood of its Captain, O. Jennings Wise, of gallant memory, in the lamentable affair of Roanoke Island. Afterwards he was promoted to the Lieutenant Colonelcy of the 19th Regiment; but in 1839, was re-elected Captain of the Blues, and served with éclat for nearly eight years. At the breaking out of the present war, the honorary and ex-members of the Blues formed themselves into a reserved corps, to the command of which they again called their old Captain. He was appointed by Governor McDowell, a Visitor of the Virginia Military Institute, and served as such four years. For twelve years he served as a member of the City Council of Richmond, during the latter part of that period being its President. He was elected and served one year as a member of the Hustings Court. Originally appointed by the Board of Public Works, and afterwards elected by the Stockholders, he has served continuously for twenty-five years as a Director of the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad; and was for several years a Director of the Richmond and Danville Railroad.

On the 5th of October, 1829, he was elected Secretary of the State Convention, called to revise the Constitution. Of this Convention, Mr. Ritchie, in his preface to the Report of their Proceedings and Debates, says: "Much of what was venerable for years and long service; many of those who were most respected for their wisdom and their eloquence, two of the Ex-Presidents of the

“United States, the Chief Justice of the United States, several of those who had been most distinguished in Congress or the State Legislature, on the Bench or at the Bar, were brought together for the momentous purpose of laying anew the fundamental law of the land.” This office he resigned, after a service of two months, having been then re-elected, for the fifth time, Clerk of the House of Delegates. In his letter of resignation, he stated that, so long as the sessions of the Convention and the House would not have conflicted, he would, with pleasure, have served both without receiving double compensation.

But brief as was his association with the Convention of 1829-30, it brought him into contact with some of the foremost men of their time, and their proceedings and debates taught him lessons of jurisprudence and law-making, and held before his eyes examples of wisdom and virtue in the art of governing, the like of which we may well pray for again. He could not but be inspired by their spirit; he could not but be enlightened by the illumination of such minds; he could not but be made more wisely patriotic by the dignified deliberations of such fathers and founders of civil liberty, of social order and of Constitutional guarantees.

Since he entered upon the duties of Secretary of the Commonwealth, he has filled, either ex-officio or by special appointment, various other offices, such as:

Commissioner of the Colonization Board, Commissioner of the Sinking Fund, Commissioner to audit and settle accounts and expenditures of the John Brown raid, Commissioner (by ordinance of the Convention of Virginia,) to audit and settle all claims for expenditures for the organization, equipment, &c., of the land and naval forces called or to be called for the defence of the Commonwealth in the present war.

In March, 1860, the duty of revising the Code of Virginia was devolved on him by law, and he has executed his task to the entire satisfaction of the Bench and the Bar, at an expense of but \$2,000, whilst the revisal of 1819 cost \$10,000, and that of 1849 cost \$27,000.

Thus, he has been required to fill many important but still subordinate offices. All of them, and most of them together, he has filled with ability, assiduity, punctuality, accuracy and dignity. And when we look at the nature of the offices, they are all such exactly as train a man for the comprehensive views and various details required in the Executive office, which superintends them all. Col. Munford, as Governor, would not have to go to the Attorney General for the statutes. He would not have to run to every clerk for the forms of his department. He would not have to over-burthen the offices by calls for reports on every claim. With the legislation, with the forms, with the history of accounts and claims, he is more familiar than any other man. And with the larger subjects he has had to labor still harder and more constantly. The sinking fund has tested his fiscal capacity, and his reports show how well he has mastered

the fiscal concerns of the Commonwealth. He knows all our liabilities, all our resources, all our expedients for punctual preservation of State honor, and he knows how to detect the tricks of money-changers and the frauds of claimants. Himself economical, he has jealously watched others who would plunder, either by corruption or extravagance. There is not a subject of the State's policy with which George Wythe Munford is not habitually familiar, and with which he has not been practically familiar, for twenty-five years. What man living can justly lay claim to so large and long, so comprehensive and yet so minute, an experience? What better man, then, is there to be found for the office of Governor?

Is there any personal objection to him? His private is even more exemplary and commendable than his public life. He is of an old stock, and a good old Virginia stock. In manners, morals and principles, as well as by birth and education, he is a gentleman. In all those more intimate and tender relations which bind him to family, friends, kindred and servants, he is all that friendship could ask, or affection claim, or humanity and kindness enjoin.

Is he agreeable in his office? Go and ask Governors Johnson, Wise and Letcher what a valuable officer and invaluable friend in office he was and is! Go and ask the legislatures of his time, their members and committees, of whose use he is, and ever has been, and how he has volunteered to serve them with counsel and labor! Go to the four winds of the State and ask every poor pensioner and claimant and petitioner for pardon, how many calls of theirs he has answered with much labor without pay? Go to the Treasurer, Auditors, and the whole personnel of the Executive service, and inquire how much aid he has rendered them! And ask everywhere whether he has an enemy? If he has none, is he a sycophant to all? Not one can be found to say so. All will say he is no time-server—he is a *State-server*. Why, then, should he, who has been careful and faithful in few and comparatively small things, not be made ruler in many and great things?

HENRICO.

From the Richmond Enquirer.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR.

The last Lieutenant Governor having been elected from the East in accordance with usage which has almost grown into law, it is proper now that the next Lieutenant Governor should be a Western man. We know no gentleman who is a better representative of the West, and who is more devoted to the interests of the entire State, than SAMUEL PRICE, of the county of Greenbrier. We second his nomination as one peculiarly proper at this time.

Party spirit is and ought to be quenched in such a crisis as this; the old party issues are dead and cannot be revived. The situation of the country, the changes in the Confederate Constitution, the mutations in the currency, in manufactures, in commercial relations,

in all the great and prominent institutions of the State, contribute to render old party ties and affiliations useless and improper. It becomes all men, then, to select those for office who are eminently worthy, who are best qualified for the positions they are to fill, who are gentlemen in character, in feeling, in behavior, in association; who are experienced in the duties they will be called on to perform; who have the intellect to comprehend and the judgment and firmness to execute a wise purpose, and cannot be swayed by personal interest, by motives of ambition, friendship or partiality from the pure and strict line of duty, and are influenced solely by the desire to promote the welfare of the State and the Confederacy. We believe that Samuel Price is such a man as is here described, in all respects equal to the requirements of the second office in the gift of the people.

Mr. Price is a lawyer, well versed in the statutes of Virginia, a member of the General Assembly, a member of the State Convention, and was recently warmly recommended by many for the high office of Confederate States Senator. He has long shown himself attentive to the interests of the State—knowing its wants, and possessing the manhood and liberality to promote every object calculated, in his judgment, to aggrandize and sustain Virginia. He has been a leader in Western Virginia, thoroughly comprehending our internal improvement system, and ardently devoted to the development of the great lines of communication which would bind the East and West together with more durable links than any that could be forged, and at the same time lay open to trade and commerce the resources of the magnificent region in which he resides. He is practically acquainted with parliamentary law, and therefore a suitable presiding officer of the State. He is a gentleman pleasant in social and business intercourse, of unsullied character and deep devotion to the State. He has been a prisoner in the hands of the Yankees. He refused to succumb to their power, preferring imprisonment rather than sully his honor by taking an oath of allegiance to the Lincoln Government or denying the just power of the old Commonwealth.

Such a man is eminently worthy of the new position for which he is named. We announce him for the office of Lieutenant Governor, in full confidence of his success.

TIDE-WATER.

From the Richmond

ATTORNEY

It is time that it should be generally known that the Hon. John Randolph Tucker will be the only candidate, for the office of Attorney General. None know him but to love him, none name him but to praise. Talented, upright, conscientious, high-toned, valiant, learned in the law, with logic and wit to sway the mind with irresistible power, he will find no opponent, or if he does, the position will be fruitless and vain.

VALLEY.

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